



# BIG SANDY NEWS.

Scott's  
Emulsion  
renews and sustains  
the strength of  
Failing Babies  
Tired Adults  
and the Aged

Aut inveniam viam, aut faciam.

Volume XXVII, Number 20.

LOUISA, LAWRENCE COUNTY, KENTUCKY, JANUARY 19, 1912.

M. F. CONLEY, Publisher.

## DEATH

### Removes Some of Our Worthy People.

### The Summons Came Suddenly to Judge Marcum, But Was Not Unexpected to the Others.

Mr. Alexander Lackey.

After a long period of failing health, during which every effort was made to delay and possibly avert the inevitable result, Alexander Lackey, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Q. Lackey, of this city, died peacefully and without a struggle at his home about 5 o'clock Monday morning. All of the immediate family except an older brother, John G. Lackey, of East Liverpool, O., were present when death closed the scene. Two sisters, Mrs. Ben Thomas, of Cincinnati, and Mrs. James McConnell, of Catlettsburg, were also present in the final hours. He is survived by his parents, one sister, Mrs. H. C. Corns, and two brothers, John and Junior. Had he lived until March 17 he would have been 32 years old.

At one o'clock on Wednesday afternoon the funeral services were held at the home of the deceased, conducted by the Rev. J. W. Critch, pastor of the M. E. church, South. The services were simple and appropriate. Prayer, song and a fitting discourse by the minister marked the solemn occasion. The one great passion of the dead boy's life was a love for flowers. He loved them as he loved no other voiceless thing. It was eminently fitting, therefore, that the choicest buds and blossoms procurable should guard the casket which held his mortal remains. Flowers in beautiful designs, the gift of friends at home and abroad, were offered in fragrant profusion, testifying with mute eloquence to the esteem in which Alex Lackey was held.

Following the services at the house the body was conveyed to Pine Hill cemetery and buried. The road being dangerous because of the snow and ice the final farewell to the son and brother was taken at home, none of the family except John Lackey accompanying the body to the grave.

As soon as possible after Mr. Lackey became aware that he was seriously affected he sought a more congenial climate, going to southern California, where he remained several years. A few months ago a longing for home and kindred impelled him to return to his native Louisa. It seemed for a time that the ravages of disease were checked, but it was not for long. First his activities were restricted to the home place and its surroundings, then he was compelled to remain in doors, finally the bed, and then the untimely end.

Alex Lackey was a most lovable character. He was clean in word and action, upright, industrious almost to the last, never so happy as when doing something for those he loved. He knew he must die but the knowledge possessed no terrors for him. He said he was ready to go when called, having joined the church while in California, and such was doubtless the case. May the land of eternal sunshine, and the home of fadeless flowers and the place of never ending happiness be his abode.

Judge W. W. Marcum.

The news of the sudden and entirely unexpected death of Judge W. W. Marcum, at his home in Ceredo last Monday morning came as a great shock to his relatives and many friends in Louisa. He had been his usual robust self for many years or so, but was not thought sick. On the day mentioned he got up about the usual hour when he was seized with pain in the back. Relief was obtained as quickly as possible, but it was unavailing and he died at 7 o'clock. Word of the sad news was immediately wired to his family and to his son, Dr. Fred Marcum, of Torchlight. The message of sorrow came in time for the

relatives to leave on the morning train. Mrs. C. C. Hill, Mr. and Mrs. W. D. O'Neal and family, Miss Edith Marcum, who was visiting Louisa friends, and Dr. Marcum were those who left Monday. Mr. Hill went down Tuesday afternoon. Mrs. Hill had been with her father the day before, and left for home with no thought of what would be the next word concerning her father.

The burial occurred in Huntington at noon Wednesday after funeral services at the home, and was largely attended.

Judge W. W. Marcum was born in what is now Wayne county, West Virginia, nearly 67 years ago. He was the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Marcum and was the first of a large number of brothers and sisters to die. The surviving ones are T. D. and P. S. Marcum, of Catlettsburg, John S. James H. and Lacy, of Huntington, Mrs. Cahill, of New York city, Mrs. Morgan Baker, of Huntington, Mrs. E. V. Simpkins, of War Eagle, and Mrs. J. B. Dotson, of Thacker.

Judge Marcum was twice married. His first marriage was in Virginia to Miss Eunice Cox, of that state. The second wife was Miss Mary E. Burgess, of this county, who survives him. The children are: Dr. Fred Marcum, of Torchlight, James Charles, Frank and Homer of Ceredo, Mrs. W. D. O'Neal and Mrs. C. C. Hill, of Louisa, and Misses Hermia and Edith, of Ceredo. For many years Judge Marcum was a highly respected citizen of Louisa. He was a member of the Lawrence county bar and served a term as County Attorney. Upon going to Ceredo he became active in politics and law. He in time became Judge of the Wayne county court, and two years ago was elected to the West Virginia House of Delegates. He was a good lawyer and (Continued on page five.)

## TOM RATCLIFF ARRESTED.

### Man Charged With the Murder of Arch Pyles.

In October the NEWS gave the particulars of the killing of a young man named Arch Pyles, son of Val Pyles, of Whites Creek, W. Va. Young Pyles and two other young men named respectively Tom Ratcliff and Dick Sanders became involved in a dispute over some trivial matter, and during the difficulty which ensued Pyles received knife wounds which caused his death in a few minutes.

Sanders and Ratcliff fled, and although the father of the slain boy offered a large reward for their apprehension nothing was heard of them until the arrest of Ratcliff by Deputy U. S. Marshal Rafferty in one of the upper Sandy counties a few days ago. Rafferty brought his man to Catlettsburg. He received the reward which had been offered for the prisoner and turned him over to the Wayne county authorities.

The marshal had heard that a man answering to Ratcliff's description was staying at a certain house. Going to the place he found his man up the chimney of a fire place. The officer thinks Sanders is in Floyd county, and is looking for him. Young Pyles was a nephew of Mrs. Albert Murray, of this city.

### DIFFICULTY SETTLED.

The existing difficulty between S. P. Wiley and his cousin L. K. Vinson, has been settled and a charge that the latter had entered against Mr. Wiley has been dismissed. Vinson had stated in an affidavit that Wiley had forged his name to a note for \$175.00. Wiley insisted that he had written Vinson's name by the latter's consent and that was all there was to it. Both men are good citizens and men of considerable means and the affair was indeed an unfortunate one, and their respective friends will be glad to learn that everything is now satisfactorily adjusted. —Catlettsburg Tribune.

### COURT OF APPEALS.

Brown, etc., vs. Spradlin, Johnson, reversed.  
Waller, etc., vs. Syck, Pike, reversed.

## MILL ACCIDENT

### Kills One Man and Injures Several Others.

### Catastrophe at N. K. Whitten's Grist Mill Near Prosperity, this County.

By an accident which occurred at the grist mill of Whitten and Wellman, on Irish creek, this county, last Saturday morning, one of the proprietors, Felix Wellman, was instantly killed, one man, young Sam Chaffin mortally injured, Harrison Castle, Joe Moore, Lefe Adams, Rent Adams and Garfield Adams more or less severely hurt. Chaffin's skull is fractured and the attending physician says he cannot recover.

Mr. Wellman was an uncle of Jno. and H. G. Wellman, of this place, and Garfield Adams was a cousin of J. M. Adams, with Dixon, Moore & Co. Mr. Wellman is survived by a widow and two grown children. The mill had been running but a short time when the accident occurred. The burr was going at a high rate of speed when it burst. One of the mill posts which held the burrs in position struck Mr. Wellman about the lower part of his chest with force enough to drive him through the oak side of the building, causing instant death. Besides those mentioned several narrowly escaped injury. It is supposed that the continued cold had filled the stone with frost, and the rapid motion and continued friction had generated heat sufficient to cause the upper stone to burst.

Mr. Wellman was a good citizen and his untimely and tragic death is much deplored. His partner and son-in-law, Mr. Whitten, was in Louisa when the accident happened and only heard of it at Busseyville as he was going home.

### Wedding Bells.

Crowning her social triumph in Washington society, where a brilliant debut will be made at the New Willard on the evening of January 2, wedding bells will ring for Miss Eloise Hughes, one of Huntington's most charming and highly accomplished young girls. The fortunate groom to be is Mr. Lucien Smith, a member of a very wealthy and influential family at Morgantown. Congressman and Mrs. James A. Hughes and daughter left Thursday afternoon for the capital, where handsome preparations will be made for the coming-out party of Miss Hughes. Following this, she will be much feted and receive flattering attention amid a gay whirl of mid-winter festivities. A visit will then be made to New York to procure final touches for the trousseau. The wedding will take place at the home, "Mama Binn," in this city near the twentieth of February and interest in the brilliant match will be displayed not only among the social circles of Huntington and throughout West Virginia and Kentucky, but in the political world as well, and in the historical old college town where Mr. Smith resides. Coming upon the eve of her formal debut, the announcement of Miss Hughes' approaching marriage will be heard with interest by her hundreds of people who claim this lovely young girl as a friend. —Huntington Herald Dispatch.

The date of the marriage of Miss Hughes has been definitely fixed for the evening of February 8th, and will occur at the Christian Church, Huntington. One of the bridesmaids will be Miss Victoria Garred, of this city.

Miss Hughes is a niece of Postmaster A. M. Hughes, of this city and is very well known and very popular. She is a girl of much beauty of person and simplicity and charm of manner. She is well educated and highly accomplished, has traveled and seen much, and has been greatly admired at home and abroad.

## Ashland Postmaster to be Removed.

The following extract from a Washington dispatch to the Louisville Post is not without interest to Louisians, Mr. Boggess having formerly been a resident of this place: Senator Bradley also will succeed in hanging the scalp of Postmaster Boggess, of Ashland at his belt, and the next to fall under his deadly aim will be Collector of Internal Revenue Maurice Galvin, of Covington.

The removal of Postmaster Boggess, however, is apt to cause one of the biggest rows ever known in Kentucky over a postoffice appointment. The record of Mr. Boggess has not been attacked from any source.

### In the Oil Field.

The cold weather has prevented any work of importance being done in the oil field during the past week. The machinery for the Cochran and Reuben Fork wells was moved to the respective locations.

Material for a derrick to be erected on a 40-acre tract belonging to Mrs. Betty Pigg is being delivered on the ground. A lease on this tract is held by the Busseyville Oil & Gas Company.

### Asphyxiated by Smoke.

One day last week an N. & W. train crew discovered a box car on fire, near Vivian, a small station east of Kenova. They broke open the door and found two men overcome by the smoke and so badly burned that they were in a dying condition.

An investigation revealed the two victims to be Ben Bradley and Walter Sanders. They died before their bodies could be taken out of the car.

## LAND GRANT SUITS.

### Action Started to Annul Remaining Virginia Suits.

Years ago Pike county got rid of what is known as the "Old Virginia Land Grants," the case finally being carried to the Supreme Court of the United States, which Court upheld the Kentucky Court.

There are a number of other grants in Pike county which are really more hurtful to the people than the Virginia Land Grants, and what is known as the large blanket surveys. The General Assembly of Kentucky in 1896 passed an act which provided that it is the duty of the Commonwealth Attorney, in the various sections wherein such grants exist, to institute suit within five years to forfeit such grants to the Commonwealth. January 1st, 1912, was the last day in which said suits could be brought. An action was filed by the Commonwealth on Monday a week to forfeit the Corley, Smith grant of 131,000 acres to non-payment of taxes. This blanket survey has been held good by the Court of Appeals, but various interests in this grant have become subject to the forfeiture by reason of non-payment of taxes. This grant takes all the upper end of John's creek from about the mouth of Bent branch, a portion of Pond creek, the entire upper part of Coon creek, and most of all Levisa fork of the river including Fed's creek and Lick creek, which was affected by it.

Suit has also been instituted to forfeit the Baum-English survey of 32,000 acres, partially known as the Dills, Williamson survey. This affects a large part of Peters creek, Knox creek and a portion of Blackberry.

Suit has also been instituted to forfeit the Anno Hatfield survey of 800 acres, on the lower part of Peters creek, possibly going up to the forks. The last named is an old survey upon which no taxes have been paid for more than 40 years. Under the law, the forfeitures, when had, inure to benefit of the people in possession of the land, so more than 200 citizens will be affected by it. In this their titles, junior grants and title of possession will entirely remove any cloud of these old grants from over their land. The effect of suits will entirely wipe out the large blanket surveys in Pike county. —Pikeville Herald.

## 21 YEARS

### In the Penitentiary Given to Ben Blankenship.

### Extreme Penalty for Manslaughter Fixed By Jury for the Killing of Oscar Waller.

When the NEWS went to press on Thursday last the case of Ben Blankenship for the killing of Oscar Waller had been taken up and the work of impaneling a jury was in progress. When court adjourned for the day three jurors had been obtained, exhausting the entire panel. The court ordered the summoning of sixty extra jurors for the following day. Before noon Friday a jury had been obtained and two or three witnesses for the prosecution examined. The following comprised the jury: Hiram Mead, Chris. Nicewander, David Hughes, Enoch Cordle, A. M. Wheeler, Fred Perry, A. J. Green, John Daniels, Henry Hughes, J. G. Sammons, A. H. Perry and E. A. Gartin. By noon of Saturday all the evidence had been heard and argument of the case had begun immediately after the noon recess. The State was represented by Commonwealth's Attorney John M. Waugh, assisted by Judge S. G. Kinner, of Catlettsburg, and M. S. Burns, Cain and Thompson, and W. D. O'Neal, and M. C. Kirk, of Inez, appeared for the defense.

There were 3 speeches made for each side, Waugh, Kinner and Burns and Cain, O'Neal and Kirk. Mr. Waugh closing for the State. The last speech was made after supper and after a short consideration of the case by the jury court was adjourned. The jury had the case under consideration for a short time on Sunday, Judge Hannah saying that he would be on hand to receive a verdict if one was made. No conclusion was reached that day, however, and further deliberation was postponed until Monday. About eleven o'clock Monday morning the jury announced an agreement and returned a verdict of guilty, fixing the punishment of Blankenship at confinement in the penitentiary for period of twenty-one years. On Monday afternoon Blankenship and Jno. Pack, who will serve an indeterminate sentence of from one to five years in the penitentiary for shooting his wife, were taken to Frankfort by Sheriff Carter and guard Lock Moore.

The grand jury adjourned after a session of six days. During this time they examined 141 witnesses and found 80 indictments. The jury failed to find an indictment against Warden Marcum, charged with shooting a black man named Brown a few weeks ago, and he was discharged, but it did indict his companion, Charles Thornhill.

The case of the commonwealth against men and women who were charged with breaking into the Henshaw Creek school house last fall will come up again next spring in a greatly modified form. When it was called this term two of the women agreed to appear as witnesses for the commonwealth and were released. They had been in jail several months. The Gallihue woman is out on bail, as are the men.

Several cases in which Mr. W. D. O'Neal was counsel had been set for this week, but owing to the death of his father-in-law, Judge W. W. Marcum, he was compelled to be away. On this account Judge Hannah deemed it best to close the term, which he did early Monday morning.

The twenty-one year old case in which Capt. William Bartram was plaintiff and which the NEWS noted last week, was decided in favor of the Captain. He obtained a judgment for \$800 and accrued interests making a total of \$1238.00.

Dr. W. B. McClure, of Lexington, has made the L. & N. railroad defendant in a suit he has filed to recover \$25,000 for personal injury sustained when his automobile was wrecked by being run into by one of the road's engine.

## Explosion and Fire at Normal.

The two story, frame building, occupied as a store room, by L. C. Fogeman, and as a lodge room, located in Normal, was blown into atoms, and totally destroyed by fire Sunday morning shortly before 3:00 o'clock.

No one as yet has been found who is able to explain how the explosion took place, but the supposition is that a gas pipe had burst and the lower room of the building had become full of gas which ignited from a light that was burning.

Mr. Fogeman had quite a stock of groceries and other goods in the building that were insured for \$500, which amount it is said will only cover a portion of his loss.

The second story of the building was occupied as a lodge room by the Junior Order of American Mechanics and the Knights of Golden Eagle. All their paraphernalia and lodge equipment were in the building and were totally destroyed. Each of the lodges had \$250 insurance on their goods which will partially reimburse them.

The building destroyed was merely occupied by the Normal office. —Catlettsburg Tribune.

### Railroad Up Beaver.

The C. & O. will build a road up Beaver creek, beyond the coal lands owned by the C. & O. The Beaver Creek a Northern Coal Companies.

Coal from these mines will be sent through Louisa to Cincinnati, where it will be turned over to C. H. and D. for the haul to Toledo, from which point it will be hauled in the Great Lakes coal traffic during the summer months, while in the winter it will be diverted for an all-rail haul to the Northwest.

## WEST VIRGINIA FIRES.

### Logan and Matewan Sustain Heavy Losses.

Logan, W. Va., Jan. 13.—At 1 o'clock this morning the town was visited by one of the most disastrous fires in its history, a whole square, including the court house and many of the principal mercantile establishments of the town being destroyed.

The fire started in Menor's department store, or in a pool room adjoining, the flames having advanced so far before discovered that it was impossible to tell in which place the fire started.

The volunteer fire department of the town was called out by the alarm but was able to accomplish but little owing to the fact that the water was frozen in the mains. Among the buildings destroyed were W. B. Johnson's grocery store Menor's ten cent store; the Stall moving picture theatre; the store of the Co-operative Mercantile Company; the Gem pool room; Lannams' plumbing establishment; two empty buildings and a small building occupied by the fire department.

The greatest loss will fall in the destruction of the Logan county court house, a building completed about three years ago at a cost of approximately \$100,000. The court house was a handsome stone structure, modern in design and finish. When it was found that the court house could not be saved an attempt was made to remove the records from the offices of the county and circuit clerks, and from the offices of the sheriff and assessor. This work was but partly completed when the heat became so fierce that it had to be abandoned, and the vaults closed. Whether any of the records were lost is not yet known, but it is believed that the vaults being of modern construction will protect them, and they will be found intact when the heat subsides.

The fire department of the town aided by scores of volunteers made heroic efforts to check the progress of the flames, but handicapped by the extreme cold, it was found impossible to prevent a disaster which will be felt for years to come.

The loss cannot be fully estimated at present. The destruction of (Continued on page five.)